

The Brethren Evangelist

Official Organ of the Brethren Church

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TERMS

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Personal Mention

Professors Miller and Garber are improving the pleasant summer days by working in the interests of the college in our community.

We cannot but mention our appreciation of Brother Furry's thoughtful and timely article, "The Church Paper" in this issue.

Brother J. D. McFaden received one into the church at Carleton, Neb. by baptism. The brethren at Carleton have repaired their church and are making due preparations to hold the district convention there.

Brother Marcus A. Witter went to Bremen, Ohio last Saturday where he preached on Sunday. He is expected to remain during the week to conduct a meeting. Brother Edward Burnworth is the pastor of this congregation.

In brother J. O. Talley's account of his visit in Iowa he reports one addition by baptism to the church at Aurelia and ten additions, six by baptism and four by relation at Dallas Center. Brother Noah Flora is the resident pastor.

Brother T. D. Good writes some very encouraging news from his field of labor in Virginia. He reports one baptism at Mt. Olive and eleven additions to the church as a result of a meeting conducted at the Mt. Grove appointment in the Spring.

We enjoy very greatly the recent communications from brother P. J. Brown of Congress, Ohio. We are glad that Brother Brown realizes the need of an improved method of teaching and government in our church, and that he is free to express his views.

Brother C. F. Yoder sends the following items regarding his work in Indiana: At Warsaw four were received into the church last Sunday by baptism. Two of these had come forward during our meeting last winter and two came since our last report. The congregations at Warsaw and Fairview, Ind., have each sent contributions for the famine sufferers in China.

Brother D. J. Myers of Homerville, Ohio was a welcome and not unusual caller in the EVANGELIST office on Tuesday. He has kindly taken Mrs. Gnagey with little Emerson and Theodore to his delightful country home to spend a short vacation, which we know they will enjoy immensely.

Brother Frank B. Yoder, who was among the college students who spent the early summer in Boston, returned to Ohio last week. He visited a few days with friends at Wooster and remained two days with friends in Ashland, who found his visit very enjoyable. He has gone to Indiana to spend the remaining vacation and expects to return to Ashland to school in the Fall or Winter.

Quiet Observer

I have just read brother Wm. Beachler's article, "How Induce Young Men to Enter the Ministry" in the latest EVANGELIST and it has set me to thinking along the line of our urgent needs as a church. Added to the strength of this article, Sister Detwiler's mention of our small number of ministers has influenced me to write somewhat on the subject. Some time ago I found in a religious weekly a rather curious piece of verse, half playful and half earnest in its tone, yet withal containing good thought. It was entitled "The Demands of the Modern Church" and ran thus:

Wanted a pastor, strong and young;
A man of brain, with silvery tongue,
Possessed of liberal, moderate views,
Whose eloquence will fill the pews;
A man who'll interest young and old,
And add new members to the fold;
And one who's not afraid of work,
And will no smallest duty shirk;
Whose sermons will be always new,
And whose vacations will be few,
Who'll manage without fuss or fret
To free the church of every debt;
With disposition mild yet firm,
Not lax nor yet unduly stern.
If such a man will but apply,
On our good will he can rely;
And we'll be glad to have him stay
Until his hair is turning grey.
When we'll politely let him know,
That it is time for him to go,
And seek new pastures, where his skill
May be appreciated still.
For such is now, the Christian way
Of treating ministers today.

What, I thought, does the Brethren church need more than just such ministers? Our church is young in years and we have progressed in many lines to justify our feeling gratified. But every loyal, loving member must deplore the insufficiency of our ministry. I can think of fields upon fields in each of which an educated, consecrated minister could establish a working church and accomplish glorious things for Christ. There are at Ashland I believe ten or twelve theological students, probably not one of whom will graduate for several years. The church already owes a debt of gratitude to these young men for service rendered her. We need many more like them. The Theological class at Ashland should be increased four-fold during the coming year.

We can hardly over-estimate the power of the preached Word. "Preaching is the original and ordained way of extending a knowledge of Jesus Christ. The printing press is a splendid ally, but redeemed man, with a redeeming message, is the method which our Lord especially devised for human salvation. His command to his church is, 'Go ye unto all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.' The personal publication of the glad tidings of redemption is as indispensable now as when the Apostles by it turned the world upside down. It never has been, and never will be, superseded." We cannot have power and in-

fluence unless we have a ministry strong to preach. I can point our talented young men to no more convincing appeal than St. Paul's; for I can think of no more eloquent defense of missions than that made by him in Romans 10:12-15. "How shall they hear without a preacher?" The argument is self evident.

We must enhance also the efficiency of our ministry. The minister of the Gospel has no easy work. It requires well trained faculties and an unselfish spirit. It is highly necessary in an age of high schools and colleges that the Christian minister be able to cope with educated young people and be influential in the educational world. God uses prepared men. No young man dare hope, to be a lasting power as a preacher unless he has made preparation for the noble work. Allow me to quote from *The Presbyterian*: Not "short-cuts" to the ministry, but adequate preparation, is the call of the hour. In all denominations, there are too many half-fledged ministers. Their day is brief, however popular they may be at first. They lack staying qualities. The demands upon the brain as well as upon the heart of the pastor of today are tremendous. He must be an up-to-date man. The church that will not prepare the right kind of men for its pulpits must lose power and standing. Already a reaction has set in against the cry for a less educated ministry, and the young man who hurries thru his studies and cuts short his Academic career will regret it in after life, and fall behind, sooner or later, in the ministerial race. A higher and better order of preachers means larger influence and multiplied service.

Literary Notes

The August Magazine Number of *The Outlook*, in addition to six or eight unusually strong articles dealing with educational topics, contains another illustrated installment of Jacob A. Riis's "The Making of an American," the continuation of "The Man from Glengarry," by Ralph Connor, author of "Black Rock" and "The Sky Pilot," a richly illustrated account of a visit to Sienkiewicz, the Polish novelist, by Louis E. VanNotman; full page portraits of the late John Fiske, Governor Taft of the Philippines, and others. President, G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, pays an earnest and enthusiastic tribute to President Gilman, who has just retired from the presidency of John Hopkins University; excellent full-page portraits of President Remsen, are contained in the number. (\$3 a year. *The Outlook Company*, 287 Fourth Ave., N. Y.)

The midsummer heat does not seem to have dampened the zeal of those engaged in the preparation of the August number of *The Homiletic Review*. The material in every department is sufficiently rich, varied, interesting and timely to attract the preacher even in his vacation time.

Gen. John Eaton, opens the number with a comprehensive treatment of "The Mormon Menace." Probably no one has had better opportunities for understanding and appreciating the grave national danger and the remedy called for. Rev. Dr. Camden M. Cobern makes an almost startling presentation of the extent and variety of the "Early Intercourse Between the Hebrews and Other Ancient Peoples." Dr. David James Burrell sets forth the place and scope of "The Historical Sermon." Dr. Louis Albert Banks treats of "Sources of Fresh Illustrations, and How to Gather Them." These, with a large number of other instructive and spiritual articles, make this a number helpful to all and especially ministers. Published monthly by Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York. \$3.00 a year.